IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-10. (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) A tweezer having a longitudinal dimension and comprising two legs extending along said longitudinal dimension, ~~and~~ each leg having a first end an opposite second end, the first ends of the legs being connected with each other ~~at one of their ends~~ forming an apex area, ~~and~~ the second ends of the legs being unconnected and capable of reversible engagement with each other ~~at their other ends~~ upon a manually exerted closure pressure; wherein said tweezers are formed of a light metal profile by extrusion and by separation of said profile approximately transversely to said direction of extrusion of said profile, said tweezer having an essentially monolithic structure.

12. (previously presented) The tweezer of claim 11, wherein said closure pressure is at least about 120 g.

13. (previously presented) The tweezer of claim 11, wherein said closure pressure is at least about 150 g.

14. (currently amended) The tweezer of claim 11, wherein each of said first and second legs, when viewed in a plane extending transversely to said extrusion direction of said profile, has a

first thickness; and wherein said apex area, when measured in said plane along said longitudinal dimension, has a thickness that is increased by at least about 20% above said first thickness of each of said legs.

15. (currently amended) The tweezer of claim 12, wherein each of said first and second legs, when viewed in a plane extending transversely to said extrusion direction of said profile, has a first thickness; and wherein said apex area, when measured in said plane along said longitudinal dimension, has a thickness that is increased by at least about 20% above said first thickness of each of said legs.

16. (currently amended) The tweezer of claims 14, wherein each of said first and second legs has a bulge in which said first thickness of each of said legs is increased by at least about 30% above said first thickness of said legs so as to limit deformation of said legs upon manual compression.

17. (currently amended) The tweezer of claim 11, wherein each of said first and second legs, when viewed in a plane transverse to said longitudinal dimension of said tweezer, has a prismatic cross-section, the height of which corresponds to a first thickness of said legs, and the width of which cross-section is at least twice as large as said first thickness.

18. (previously presented) The tweezer of claim 17, wherein said prismatic cross-section is a rectangular cross-section.

19. (currently amended) The tweezer of claim 12, wherein each of said first and second legs, when viewed in a plane transverse to said longitudinal dimension of said tweezer, has an essentially prismatic cross-section, the height of which corresponds to a first thickness of said legs, and the width of which cross-section is at least twice as large as said first thickness.

20. (currently amended) The tweezer of claim 15, wherein each of said first and second legs, when viewed in a plane transverse to said longitudinal dimension of said tweezer, has an essentially prismatic cross-section, the height of which corresponds to said first thickness of said legs, and the width of which cross-section is at least twice as large as said first thickness.

21. (currently amended) The tweezer of claim 16, wherein each of said first and second legs, when viewed in a plane transverse to said longitudinal dimension of said tweezer, has an essentially prismatic cross-section, the height of which corresponds to said first thickness of said legs, and the width of which cross-section is at least twice as large as said first thickness.

22. (currently amended) A light-metal tweezer having a longitudinal dimension extending from a first end of said tweezer to a second end thereof, and comprising two legs, each having a first end and a second end, said two legs being interconnected at their first ends in an apex forming

said first end of said tweezer; wherein said legs are capable of being brought into reversible engagement with each other at their unconnected second ends by manual exertion of a closure pressure of at least about 150 g; said tweezer having an essentially monolithic structure; and said apex area, when measured along said longitudinal dimension of said tweezer, has a thickness which is at least about 20% greater than the thickness of said legs for controlling said closure pressure.

23. (currently amended) A light-metal tweezer having a longitudinal dimension extending from a first end of said tweezer to a second end thereof, and comprising two legs, each having a first end and a second end, said two legs being interconnected at their first ends in an apex forming said first end of said tweezer; wherein said legs are capable of being brought into reversible engagement with each other at their unconnected second ends by manual exertion of a closure pressure of at least about 150 g; said tweezer having an essentially monolithic structure; and each of said legs, in an area between said first and said second ends of said legs, have a bulge which is thicker by at least about 30% than the thickness of each of said legs so as to limit deformation of the tweezer upon manual compression.

24. (currently amended) A method of producing a light-metal tweezer having a longitudinal dimension extending from a first end of said tweezer to a second end thereof, and comprising two legs, each having a first end and a second end, said two legs being interconnected at their first ends in an apex forming said first end of said tweezer; said legs being capable of reversible

engagement with each other at their unconnected second ends by a manually exerted closure pressure; said method including the steps of:

providing a light-metal profile produced by extrusion in a direction of extrusion and having, when viewed in a plane transverse to said direction of extrusion, a cross-sectional shape at least approaching the shape of said tweezer when the latter is viewed in a plane extending through said legs and said apex; and dividing said profile by segmenting division approximately transversely to said direction of extrusion of said profile to form a plurality of tweezer-shaped elements.

25. (currently amended) A profile produced by extrusion of a metal, selected from the group consisting of light-metals and light-metal alloys, in a direction of extrusion; said profile when viewed in a plane transverse to said direction of extrusion has a cross-sectional shape at least approaching that of a monolithic tweezer having a first end and a second end and comprising two legs, each having a first end and a second end; said two legs being interconnected at their first ends in an apex forming said first end of said tweezer; said two legs being unconnected at their second ends forming said second end of said tweezer.

26. (currently amended) The tweezers of claim ~~1~~ 11, wherein the first and second legs are substantially straight.

Please add the following new claim:

27. (new) The tweezers of claim 11, wherein the first and second legs contain no acute angles.